

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 15-18, 20-24, 27, 33, 40, 51-53, 56, and 58-68 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8, 16, 21, 27, 33, 34, 36, 38, 39, and 40 being the independent claims. Claims 34-39 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 8, 10, 16, 21, 23, 27, 33, 40, 51, 52, 53, 59, and 64 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 7, 33, 40, 56, and 60-62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yang, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 7,003,118 ("Yang"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Yang does not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claim 1, 33, and 40. Yang describes an IPSEC TX Packet Parser state machine 310 "that scans outbound data packets while they are being downloaded from the host into NIC memory." (Yang, 5:61-63). The Tx Packet Parser outputs a data structure including "SA_ID's 316 which is an index into a security association database that stores the encryption key (or decryption key in the case of outbound traffic described below), Tx_Pkt_SOP (Tx Packet Start of Packet) 317, Flags 318, and other data indicating the type of security service (AH or ESP processing) to be

performed on a current outbound data traffic" into a FIFO queue 315. (Yang, 5:63 - 6:3; 6:32-48).

As acknowledged by the Office Action, the data stored in the FIFO includes "data indicating the type of security processing required." (Office Action, p. 4). In contrast, amended claims 1 and 33 recite "wherein the internal [outbound] packet includes a flow identifier for the internal [outbound] packet and security processor address data" and claim 40 recites "generating the internal packet including a security identifier header having the flow identifier, security processor address data, and at least a portion of the TCP/IP packet."

Furthermore, Yang does not teach or suggest "process[ing] at least a portion of the received internal [outbound] packet if the security processor address data matches address information associated with the security processor," as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 33.

For at least these reasons, amended independent claims 1, 33, and 40 are patentable over Yang. Claims 2, 3, 7, and 60-62 depend from claim 1. Claim 56 depends from claim 33. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 2, 3, 7, 56, and 60-62 are patentable over Yang. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Yang and Sperry

Claims 8-10, 12, 15, 21-23, and 65-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang in view of Sperry, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 7,162,630 ("Sperry"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The combination of Yang and Sperry does not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claims 8 and 21. As described above, Yang does not teach or suggest "wherein the internal outbound packet includes a flow identifier for the internal outbound packet and security processor address data, process at least a portion of the received internal outbound packet if the security processor address data matches address information associated with the security processor," as recited in amended independent claims 8 and 21.

Sperry does not overcome these deficiencies of Yang. Sperry describes a TCP acceleration and security (TAAS) integrated circuit having a hardware circuitry portion, a set of network protocol processors (NPP), and a set of embedded processors (EP). (Sperry, col. 8, lines 6-8). A NPP performs IPsec acceleration and security association/security policy (SA/SP) lookup functions. (Sperry, col. 8, lines 53-55). For outbound packets, "SPD lookup [by the NPP] typically involves retrieving the SPD selectors (such as IP source address, IP destination address, TCP source address, TCP destination address) in order to access the appropriate IPsec protocol control block (IPsec PCB) ... If the IPsec PCB information indicates that security is warranted, there may be a pointer to the security association (SA) database so that the right security association may be obtained for the outgoing packet." (Sperry, col. 8, line 56 - col. 9, line 3).

For at least the above reasons, amended independent claims 8 and 21 are patentable over the combination of Yang and Sperry. Claims 9, 10, 12, 15, and 65-68 depend from claim 8. Claims 22 and 23 depend from claim 21. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 9, 10, 12, 15, 22,

23, and 65-68 are patentable over the combination of Yang and Sperry. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

Yang and Narad

Claims 16-18, 20, 24, 51, 58, and 59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang in view of Narad *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,157,955 ("Narad"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The combination of Yang and Narad does not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claim 16. As described above, Yang does not teach or suggest "wherein the internal outbound packet includes a flow identifier for the internal outbound packet and security processor address data, process at least a portion of the received internal outbound packet if the security processor address data matches address information associated with the security processor," as recited in amended independent claim 16. Narad does not overcome these deficiencies of Yang relevant to amended independent claims 1, 16, 21 or 33, described above.

For at least these reasons, amended independent claim 16 is patentable over the combination of Yang and Narad. Claims 58 and 59 depend from claim 1; claims 17, 18, and 20 dependent from claim 16; claim 24 depends from claim 21; and claim 51 depends from claim 33. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 17, 18, 20, 24, and 51 are patentable over the combination of Yang and Narad. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

Yang, Sperry, and Amara

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang in view of Sperry and further in view of Amara *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 7,062,566 ("Amara"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 24 depends from claim 21. Neither Sperry nor Amara overcome the deficiencies of Yang relevant to claim 21, described above. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claim 24 is patentable over the combination of Yang, Sperry, and Amara. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

Yang, Sperry, and Vogel

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang in view of Sperry and further in view of Vogel *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,959,007 ("Vogel"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The combination of Yang, Sperry, and Vogel does not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claim 27. As described above, the combination of Yang and Sperry does not teach or suggest "wherein the internal outbound packet includes a flow identifier for the internal outbound packet and security processor address data, process at least a portion of the received internal outbound packet if the security processor address data matches address information associated with the security processor," as recited in amended independent claim 27. Vogel does not overcome these deficiencies of Sperry and Vogel.

For at least these reasons, amended independent claim 27 is patentable over the combination Yang, Sperry, and Vogel. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

Yang and Bilic

Claims 52 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang in view of Bilic *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 7,062,566 ("Bilic"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 52 and 53 depend from claim 33. Bilic does not overcome the deficiencies of Yang relevant to claim 33, described above. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 52 and 53 are patentable over the combination of Yang, Sperry, and Bilic. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

Yang, Sperry, and Narad

Claims 63 and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang in view of Sperry and further in view of Narad. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 63 and 64 depend from claim 8. Neither Sperry nor Narad overcome the deficiencies of Yang relevant to claim 8, described above. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 63 and 64 are patentable over the combination of Yang, Sperry, and Narad. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

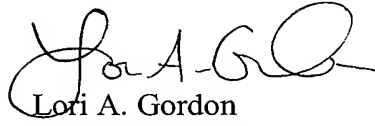
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete

reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori A. Gordon", is written over the printed name.

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